UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/316
S/1995/625
27 July 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fiftieth session
Item 28 of the provisional agenda*
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND
HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 26 July 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a declaration adopted by the Turkish Grand National Assembly in Ankara on 23 July 1995 regarding Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 28 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hayati GÜVEN
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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ANNEX

DECLARATION OF THE GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF TURKEY
23 JULY 1995

The Grand National Assembly of Turkey (GNAT),

Considering the inhuman and savage violence and genocide perpetrated in Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the strength stemming from our historical and cultural ties with that country and taking authority from our responsibility to its people,

Taking note of the latest developments which occurred as a result of the incapacity, indifference and immoral attitude displayed first of all by the United Nations and NATO, as well as by other concerned international organizations and institutions,

Feeling therefore obliged to issue the following declaration on measures that have to be adopted without delay to redress the situation:

1. The religious and ethnic cleansing is being conducted before the eyes of the world community and in the occupied territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, an independent State, member of the United Nations.

2. The UN and then NATO, under instructions from the UN, endeavoured to appear as intervening for searching a solution preventing the supreme values of humanity being trampled on by Serbian aggression. Nevertheless, neither diplomatic initiatives nor militarily weak measures have brought about an end to killings.

3. At this point, international organizations such as the UN, NATO, the Council of Europe, the WEU, the OSCE and the European Union have proved to be totally useless and have lost all their credibility. The policies of European countries treating on an equal level the innocent and the aggressor, the oppressed and the oppressor, describing the ongoing genocide as a civil war, insisting to apply the immoral and illegal arms embargo, depriving thus the Bosnians of their right to self-defence, have resulted in the mass murder not only of the Muslim Bosnians but also of those Serbs and Croats loyal to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

4. The aggressors not only openly declare that they are determined to "cleanse" Bosnia and Herzegovina of Muslim Bosniacs, but they are also trying to eradicate all human and cultural traces of Ottoman-Turkish legacy in the Balkans.

5. In light of all that precedes,

a. It is mandatory that a Security Council resolution, similar to the resolution 678 adopted by the Security Council for the liberation of Kuwait, be adopted for charging and authorizing all member States of the UN, to use all available military, political and economic means at their disposal to defend the official borders of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and put an end to the ongoing barbarity. The Government of the Republic of Turkey should undertake all necessary initiatives in this respect.

b. The irrational, illegal, immoral and unjust embargo imposed on Bosnia should be immediately lifted. In case this is not done, Turkey should declare that she should not comply with it, and together with like-minded States that should adopt the same attitude, she would use all the means at her disposal to dispatch to the Bosnian people all sort of defence equipment and material.

c. The protection of all safe areas, so declared by the UN, including Srebrenica which should gain its previous status, should be ensured. Joint initiatives with other Islamic countries should be carried out without delay in order to ensure that the Zepa safe area still resisting the aggressor, should not be occupied.

d. With a view to making it possible for the Bosnian Government to use its right to self-defence, as envisaged by Article 51 of the UN Charter, Turkey should take the lead for concluding bilateral and multilateral defence cooperation agreements with the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

e. Turkey should continue pursuing the active role she is playing, in accordance with the latest resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), for the strengthening and harmonization of the cooperation among countries member of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and should also take the lead for the establishment of the envisaged coordination center.

f. In case the UNPROFOR is partially or totally withdrawn, Turkey and the countries of the OIC should not only keep their military troops in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but should also increase their strength, review their rules of engagement and also equip them with appropriate arms and military material. In the meantime, an adequate protection of the Turkish UNPROFOR battalion at Zenica would be ensured through close air support and, military agreements should be concluded with regional countries to arrive at a just and lasting peace.

g. Two hundred thousand strong army of the Bosnian Government, at present only lightly armed, should be reinforced with multinational close air support and the international community should provide it with heavy armament, intelligence gathering and logistical support. The Serbian aggressor's military and strategic targets, supply centers and lines of communication, including roads, should not be spared from aerial attacks.

h. The Serbs should be forced to accept, as early as possible, the peace plan of the 5 Nation Contact Group.

i. The arms embargo to Serbia should continue unhindered.

j. The Turkish Red Crescent should be dispatched with a speed and in a manner conforming to the conditions of "mobilization" to Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to meet the urgent requirements of the Bosnian people for medicine, food and human assistance. The protection and security of the Turkish Red Crescent should be assured by the Turkish battalion. The continuation and expansion of the private assistance supplied by voluntary Turkish agencies and our citizens should be encouraged.

k. The trial of war criminals by the special court constituted for that purpose should be accelerated and the provisions of the Convention for the Prevention of Genocide and its Punishment, of 9 December 1948, should be applied.

6. The Grand National Assembly of Turkey, voicing the feelings of the Turkish people and fulfilling the humane and national responsibility of the Turkish people towards the brotherly people of Bosnia and Herzegovina, deems it necessary to state once again its determination to pursue more resolutely the efforts deployed and the initiatives undertaken by the Republic of Turkey and by the Turkish nation, reiterates its full support to all ongoing similar efforts aiming at putting an end to the tragedy in Bosnia and Herzegovina.